

**2008 Annual Report:** [About the light at the end of the tunnel...We think the quote above sums it up well.](#)



**Jim and Linda** Our travel in 2008 consisted of a birding trip to Ecuador with our friends the Cloudmans in January, several trips to California to see our children and grandchildren, and a [long weekend trip to New Hampshire](#) to see the fall leaves and our cousin Leslie Fuller. We also spent many weekends in Houston for the ballet and family occasions.

Linda is presently working as a Family Nurse Practitioner. She has cut back to two days a

week in preparation for retirement. With more time, she is expanding her position as Social Director for her and Jim.

Both Linda and Jim passed their *most powerful birthday* during the year:  $2^6$  is the only time (except for your first birthday) when you age is any prime to the sixth power.  $2^6 = 64$ , while  $3^6 = 729$ . If you're a fan of K-Days — and who isn't? — Linda has a fun one coming up. She will be **24000** days old on **December 31, 2009**.

**Charles, Amy, Kai, and Kiera** The big news is the arrival of our sweet and beautiful granddaughter, Kiera on March 27, 2008! Charles continues to work as an archivist with the [the National Center for Science Education \(NCSE\)](#), and Amy is a Midwife and Women's Health Nurse Practitioner. They have settled into their new house — the landscaping is fabulous, including raspberries. Their lives revolve around the kids. Schedule juggling is the order of the day. They are blessed to have the frequent and expert help of Amy's mother Marilyn (aka Mormor). Kai is happy and enthusiastic, learning new skills at gym and increasing his vocabulary daily. He tackles Kiera only occasionally.



**Claire** Claire still loves her work as a *pediatric anesthesiologist* at [Children's Hospital](#)



[and Research Center in Oakland, CA](#). She works really hard when she is on duty and enjoys her vacations the rest of the time. She seems to be snowboarding in Tahoe whenever we call.

Jim and Linda look forward to meeting Claire's new boy friend, Ron Ricci. We know the basics: he has a job, likes to cook (hooray!), and plays softball, where they met. Claire is part of a league where each team must field at least two women for each game. Claire says she plays catcher, "where she can do the least damage." She spent a week with Ron in Kauai before coming to Austin for Christmas.



Claire had some remodeling done on her condo, such as adding a small balcony. This took six months to complete, an example of *Pournelle's Law of Scheduling*: Everything takes longer and costs more.



**Lil** We are sad to report that Linda's mother, Lil, who had lived with us since May, 2006, died January 4, 2009. She had been declining for some time. We were fortunate that she lived through Christmas, so she was able to see her new great-granddaughter and visit with all the family during the holiday. Our niece, Panika, lived with us most of the time during Lil's stay and helped enormously caring for her. Linda's sister, Leslie, flew down from Seattle several times, enabling us to travel. Mary Moorman helped out also.

**Other News** We have some new comensals, an extra dog and two cats, courtesy of Panika. Cash insists on walking over the keyboard while Jim types.

That's the main reason this report is a bit late this year. 😊

Despite this, Cash is Jim's new favorite cat, replacing Skinny Minny, who has taken to sulking a lot.

Oh, yes. We did engage in a bit of politicking this year. You can read about it on the web site: [www.hargrove.org](http://www.hargrove.org).



**Cash, Panika, Cary or maybe  
Cary, Panika, Cash**



**Best wishes to all for 2009. We hope to see more of old friends this year.  
Please let us hear from you, or better yet, come visit.**



**Claire, Linda, Marilyn, Kiera, Amy, Charles, Kai, Jim 12/25/08**



**Male Widow Skimmer**



**Nina, Panika, Noah, Mary, Dama, Abe Thanksgiving, 2008**



**Leslie, Dama, Mary, Chipper, Linda  
Thanksgiving, 2008**



**Amy and Kiera May, 2008**



**Big Brother holds his sister, 5/08**